

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet, during the session of the Senate, conduct a hearing entitled "Access to Prevention and Public Health for High Risk Populations" on Tuesday, January 27, 2009. The hearing will commence at 10 a.m. in room 385 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, to conduct a hearing entitled "Health IT: Protecting Americans' Privacy in the Digital Age" on Tuesday, January 27, 2009, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. HATCH. I ask unanimous consent that Dr. Janet Phoenix, my health policy fellow, be granted the privilege of the floor during Senate consideration of H.R. 2, the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Stephanie Carlton and Evan Feinberg of my staff be granted the privilege of the floor during debate on H.R. 2.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to consideration of S. Res. 22, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 22) recognizing the goals of Catholic Schools Week and honoring the valuable contributions of Catholic schools in the United States.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid on the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 22) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 22

Whereas Catholic schools in the United States have received international acclaim

for academic excellence while providing students with lessons that extend far beyond the classroom;

Whereas Catholic schools present a broad curriculum that emphasizes the lifelong development of moral, intellectual, physical, and social values in the young people of the United States;

Whereas Catholic schools in the United States today educate 2,270,913 students and maintain a student-to-teacher ratio of 14 to 1;

Whereas the faculty members of Catholic schools teach a highly diverse body of students;

Whereas the graduation rate for all Catholic school students is 95 percent;

Whereas 83 percent of Catholic high school graduates go on to college;

Whereas Catholic schools produce students strongly dedicated to their faith, values, families, and communities by providing an intellectually stimulating environment rich in spiritual character and moral development; and

Whereas in the 1972 pastoral message concerning Catholic education, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops stated, "Education is one of the most important ways by which the Church fulfills its commitment to the dignity of the person and building of community. Community is central to education ministry, both as a necessary condition and an ardently desired goal. The educational efforts of the Church, therefore, must be directed to forming persons-in-community; for the education of the individual Christian is important not only to his solitary destiny, but also the destinies of the many communities in which he lives." Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the goals of Catholic Schools Week, an event cosponsored by the National Catholic Educational Association and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops that recognizes the vital contributions of thousands of Catholic elementary and secondary schools in the United States; and

(2) commends Catholic schools, students, parents, and teachers across the United States for their ongoing contributions to education, and for the vital role they play in promoting and ensuring a brighter, stronger future for the United States.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ANDREW
WYETH

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 23, submitted earlier today by Senator CASEY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 23) honoring the life of Andrew Wyeth.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I rise as a cosponsor of Senator SPECTER's resolution honoring Andrew Wyeth and to pay tribute to the landmark life and legacy of this towering giant of American Art. My State of Maine joins Pennsylvania, the Nation, and the world in mourning the inexpressible loss of Andrew Wyeth, a painter of enormous genius, brave vision, and unmatched realism who long ago secured

a rightful and prominent place in the pantheon of artists.

One of the most 'American' of painters, Andrew Wyeth possessed the courage and sensitivity to capture the stark beauty of the landscapes and individuals he depicted. And those of us from Maine will forever hold a special place in our hearts for the undeniable love he had for our State, as portrayed in his moving landscapes of Maine's coasts and especially in his exceptional "Christina's World." Like millions around the world, we will miss Andrew Wyeth's historic and enduring contributions to the American story as told on canvas as well as his powerful capacity for capturing the human condition unvarnished.

On a personal note, it was such a privilege to know Andy and his wonderful wife, Betsy, over the years. I will always treasure the fond memories of visiting Andy and Betsy and their family at their home on Allen Island. Indisputably, Andy lived his life the way he painted—with integrity, grace, and an abiding sense of humanity. And I always remember the pride and honor I felt attending the presentation of a National Medal of the Arts in 2007 to Andy at the White House in an unforgettable ceremony rightly recognizing his iconic body of work over an extraordinary lifetime.

I would like to include for the RECORD a recent outstanding article entitled Wyeth's White Wonder by John Wilmerding, published in The Wall Street Journal, Saturday, January 24, 2009. Formerly a professor at Dartmouth College, Mr. Wilmerding curated the exhibition Andrew Wyeth: The Helga Pictures at the National Gallery of Art in 1987 and recently retired as Sarofim Professor of American Art at Princeton University. Describing Andrew Wyeth's Snow Hill as one of his most memorable works, Mr. Wilmerding captures the essence of the painting and the painter, calling Snow Hill "one of the most haunting, beautiful and resonant of Wyeth's seven-decade career."

Poet Robert Frost once wrote of a star that "it asks a little of us here/It asks of us a certain height," and certainly the same can be said of Andrew Wyeth who inspired and entreated us to experience his courageous rendering of the world as he saw it, and like generations to come, we are eternally indebted to him. Andrew Wyeth's artistic achievements resonate not only in our time—but for all time. He will be profoundly missed, and we extend our deepest condolences to Betsy and to our great friends—their son, Jamie and his wife, Phyllis—their son, Nicholas; and the entire Wyeth family for their tremendous loss.

I ask unanimous consent the article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows: